

Congresswoman Opposes Arizona's Controversial Immigration Law, Reiterates Need for Comprehensive Immigration Reform

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47), Vice Chair of the House Homeland Security Committee, today issued the following statement regarding President Obama's meeting with Arizona Governor Jan Brewer to discuss Arizona's controversial immigration law:

"As Vice Chair of the House Homeland Security Committee and former Chair of the subcommittee with primary jurisdiction over our nation's borders, I share Governor Brewer's concerns about the security of the U.S.-Mexico border and inadequate enforcement of existing immigration laws. However, I also disagree with the Arizona legislature's approach to solving the problem, which I believe to be misguided.

"Arizona's immigration law may be smart politics, it isn't smart policy. If we really want to secure our border with Mexico, Congress needs to assert its jurisdiction on border security issues and, more importantly, tackle comprehensive immigration reform once and for all. It may seem like Arizona's law is better than nothing, but the reality is that reactionary legislation won't stop illegal border crossings, won't end the brutal drug cartel violence, and won't make America more secure in the long-term.

"Collectively, we need to turn our attention to the need for comprehensive and *humane* federal immigration reform. I hope Congress and the Administration will finally muster the political will to fix our broken immigration system, and soon, before other states pass knee-jerk laws like the one in Arizona."